

## Message Text

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12

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 NEA-10 /068 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:PWKRIEBEL:LM

8/15/73 EXT 22332

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R 152109Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652:N/A, DECONTROL 8/15/74

TAGS: PINT,KS, JA, PFOR

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: PRESS TREATMENT OF KIM TAE CHUNG ABDUCTION

REF: STATE 160969

1. DESPITE ABSENCE OF FORMAL QUESTIONS AT NOON BRIEFING  
AUGUST 14 MAJOR U.S. PAPERS SAME DAY AND AUGUST 15 HAVE  
GIVEN CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO KIM AFFAIR.

2. HALLORAN ARTICLE IN NEW YORK TIMES AUGUST 15 APPARENTLY  
BASED ON PRIVATE INTERVIEW WITH KIM. RECOUNTS MOST OF  
POINTS MADE IN KIM NEWS CONFERENCE. OF INTEREST IN  
HALLORAN REPORT, KIM CONVINCED HE WAS TO BE KILLED AND  
ONLY SAVED BY UPROAR IN JAPANESE PRESS AND THAT THOSE IN  
CHARGE FEARED SERIOUS DAMAGE TO ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS IF  
HE FAILED TO TURN UP ALIVE. HALLORAN REPORTS KIM DID NOT  
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OPENLY ACCUSE ROK CIA BUT LEFT LITTLE ROOM FOR ANY OTHER

CONCLUSION. KIM THOUGHT PLOTTERS MOVED AGAINST HIM AT THIS TIME BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN INVITED TO SPEAK BEFORE AN INFLUENTIAL GROUP IN THE RULING PARTY IN JAPAN, WAS TO BECOME THE LEADER OF A NEW ORGANIZATION OF KOREAN RESIDENTS IN JAPAN, AND HAD ACCEPTED A POSITION AS A FELLOW AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY. THESE FORUMS WOULD HAVE GIVEN HIM

GREATER OPPORTUNITY FOR CRITICISM OF THE PARK GOVERNMENT. FYI. NYT IS WORKING ON STORY WHICH WOULD LINK ROK CIA OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON EMBASSY WITH BONN KIDNAPPINGS IN 1967 AND KIM TAE CHUNG ABDUCTION. END FYI.

3. OBERDORFER ARTICLE AUGUST 15 IN WASHINGTON POST FROM TOKYO HIGHLIGHTS REQUEST OF GOJ FOR KIM'S RETURN TO JAPAN, NOTING KIM HAS SAID HE WANTS TO RETURN TO JAPAN. OBERDORFER QUOTES JAPANESE AND OTHER OBSERVERS AS BELIEVING IT WOULD TAKE STRONG GOJ AND PERHAPS U.S. PRESSURE TO CONVINCE THE ROKG TO LET KIM DEPART. HE NOTED THERE WAS NO INDICATION GOJ PREPARED TO EXERT SUCH PRESSURE. OBERDORFER GAVE CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO SPECULATION OF SPOKESMAN FOR THE KIM TAE CHUNG RESCUE COMMITTEE ON COMPLICITY OF ROK CIA.

4. POST AUGUST 14 FIRST-PAGED KIM SURFACING IN SEOUL AND SUBSEQUENT PRESS CONFERENCE. POST STORY REPLAYED KIM FEARS OF ROK CIA ACTION AGAINST HIM IN U.S. AND RECALLED SIMILAR FEARS VOICED BY CULTURAL AFFAIRS ATTACHE LEE JAI HYUN AT THE TIME OF HIS RESIGNATION IN JUNE. ROGERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, POLITICAL LEADERS, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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